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JAN 09 2001
Atty Matter No. 0275409
Atty Reference No. 23534-0005

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:)
F. Abel Ponce de Leon et al.)
Application No. 09/127,738)
Filed: August 3, 1998)
For: PRODUCTION OF AVIAN EMBRYONIC)
GERM (EG) CELL LINES BY)
PROLONGED CULTURING OF PGCs,)
USE THEREOF FOR CLONING AND)
CHIMERIZATION)

Group Art Unit: 1633

Examiner: C. Stroup

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REPLY TO OFFICIAL ACTION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents 01/04/2001 JADD01 00000081 033975 09127738
Washington, D.C. 20231 01 FC:216 195.00 CH

Sir:

In response to the Official Action dated August 1, 2000, please enter the following remarks in the above-identified Application for Patent as follows.

Remarks

The following remarks are fully responsive to the Office Action dated August 1, 2000. Reconsideration of the claimed subject matter is respectfully requested pursuant to 37 CFR 1.112 in view of the following remarks.

At the outset, Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication that claim 24 is allowable.

Claims 5, 13, 16, 18, 19 and 22 remain rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph. Essentially, the Examiner asserts that Applicants' prior arguments submitted in the Reply filed May 22, 2000 were not persuasive because (1) the specification does not state in what manner transfected PGCs and EG cells would be made and it is not otherwise apparent; (2) the reference to Vick and Simkiss is not sufficient because the retroviral vector used to transfect the PGCs in that reference did not express a transgene; (3) the exhibit showing EG